

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

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A magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the  
old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers

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IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO  
RALPH F. CUMMINGS



Ralph at his favorite sport, reading a dime novel. (Photo by George French)



## IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO RALPH F. CUMMINGS

I was greatly saddened when I received the news of Ralph's death on August 20. It was a great blow to me for I have always regarded Ralph as timeless and indestructible. In the 50 years that I have known him, I found him to be a fair, kind and gentle person who would go out of his way to help you without seeking praise or financial return. One such incident of the many occurred in Fisherville (now South Grafton). One of the farmers would drive into Fisherville to sell his fruit and produce to the townspeople, but he was plagued by boys who would "filch" fruit, etc. from the wagon. Ralph volunteered to keep watch and most of the day spent his time with the farmer to see that his goods were safe. He did this on every occasion the farmer was in town. One could quote many such incidents of his acts of kindness and help on his part.

To Ralph Smith and Ralph Cummings belong the honor of having the foresight to help preserve and popularize the publications which were the mainstay of the reading material that was within the financial reach of the bulk of Americans. Though condemned by many narrow-minded critics they could not deny the fact that reading these had left a more literate America.

Ralph Cummings had the ambition to issue a publication which reflected this type of material, which he loved so well. So in 1923 with a friend he launched his "Cummings and Clarks Flyer," a single sheet affair. In the combined issues of June-July and August of that year, it was expanded to four pages. He published this for 3 years. In January 1931 he launched his most ambitious project. A monthly publication he titled "The Dime Novel Roundup, the official organ of the Happy Hours Brotherhood." It carried 4 pages which was soon increased to 8 and sometimes more pages. Ralph published this for many years but the financial burden of making up the deficits for the years was too much for him. The publication passed into the able hands of Mr. Edward T. LeBlanc, who still publishes it. No better person could be found who enjoyed and appreciated this type of literature.

Ralph also published a number of other short lived publications like *The Book Hunter*, *The Novel World*, *The Novel Hunter's Yearbook*, *Reckless Ralph's Twenty-Five Cent Novel Library*, and many other miscellaneous items.

Ralph was very proud of the nickname "Reckless Ralph" as one newspaper reporter from an interview dubbed him. "Hi Pard" was his friendly greeting to many of his correspondents.

Ralph lived long enough to see the novels and old story papers he loved so well gain a large measure of respectability and acceptance as a form of literature. His accomplishments were not earth shaking but his untiring efforts in this field had given thousands over the years a new interest in an

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A drawing of Ralph Cummings by H. O. Rawson surrounded with many of his favorite dime novel characters

almost forgotten segment of American literature. In Ralph Cummings the world has lost a kind, gentle and understanding person, and I lost a dear friend. May he rest in peace.

Stanley A. Pachon

I was shocked and distressed when I opened your letter and read the news of Ralph's death.

For some forty years I've been privileged to count myself as one of Ralph's friends. But his dime novel days go back, of course, much further. His birthday, he had told me long ago, was 4 January 1898. So if we picture Ralph as a boy of about ten years discovering the wonderful world of dime novels, and if we then recall his deep dime-novel involvement ever since, we begin to understand how extraordinary and how happy a life Ralph was granted.

In boyhood and in earlier adult years Ralph worked hard making a living from small-scale farming. He refers to this in his article "Dime Novels Of America" . . . page one of Happy Hours Magazine Sept.-Oct. 1929. There he says, "I do not have much time for reading in the busy farming season of summer." But as the years marched by through more than half a century, Ralph's necessary work and his ever increasing devotion to dime novels gradually melded into one . . . the collecting, buying and selling, and writing about dime novels and their authors and collectors.

Going back to the same article mentioned above, Ralph talks about his collection and says in part: "My novels and story papers are in apple pie order.—And here is a welcome to any of my friends, no matter from where





Ralph Cummings in his den. Visitors to Ralphs will remember this scene very well. S. K. "Doc" Hunt is the visitor. (Photo by Charles Duprez)

he hails, to come along and shake my hand. He will get a hearty response and be shown all or any part of my collection. Brother Smeltzer has just written that he was unable to come this year, on account of alterations on his house. I feel if we could meet each other we would understand each other better. That goes for all the Brotherhood."

Therein lies the essence of the Ralph Cummings so many of us knew and counted on down the years . . . the intrinsic warmth, the honesty, the fullness of welcome extended to all fellow collectors and potential collectors. It would not have occurred to Ralph that he was also a gifted teacher. But he was. His quiet enthusiasm spilled over; his comprehensive and detailed knowledge of dime novels and related material flowed easily to others, enabling each to contribute to the other and to help sustain the spirit of brotherhood Ralph so cherished.

Looking through some of my dime novel collection, I see Ralph listed as Vice President of Ralph Smith's Happy Hours Magazine in 1926 and later issues. While I do not have earlier issues of that publication, I believe it started in 1925 with Ralph as its Vice President from the beginning. Then in 1930, at Ralph Smith's request, Ralph Cummings takes over as publisher and President of Happy Hours Magazine. With the January 1931 issue Happy Hours Magazine was transformed to Dime Novel Roundup, Official Organ for the Happy Hours Brotherhood. Soon after, in May, bearing a new and pictorial logo, the publication's title changes to Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Round-Up . . . much closer to its current format. Finally, after more than twenty years as editor, in July 1952 Ralph handed over to Eddie LeBlanc the responsibilities of publisher and editor of the Roundup. Happily, Ralph continued as an active contributor and key member of the Brotherhood.

I'm glad to be able to report that Ralph did not have to wait for obits



for recognition and expressions of gratitude. For example, in Ralph's "Newsy News" column in December 1943 Roundup he says: "Ye editor Cummings received the surprise of his life a few weeks ago when he received by express Nos. 1 to 177 inclusive of Pluck and Luck from one of the members of H.H.B. which the sender wishes him to accept with his compliments and in partial payment for what he has done to keep alive interest in our old 'Heroes.' Ye editor was so surprised and still is, that he seems to be in a trance, and hardly knows how to thank the most generous person from which he received this wonderful lot, all in fine A1 condition."

On a personal note I have been able to visit Ralph only a few times since I moved to Las Vegas twelve years ago. But we have maintained a regular correspondence and have kept in phone touch on his birthday anniversaries and whenever the need for dime novel talk called. Of late it was becoming all too clear that Ralph's life-spark was flickering and that perhaps soon he would find himself turning the last page of his book of life. It has now happened. I shall miss him . . . a dear friend and treasured member of the Brotherhood. By chance, I have just read a review of "The Oxford Companion To Children's Literature" by Humphrey Carpenter and Mary Pritchard. The reviewer notes that in this reference work, undertaken as "a true companion to children's literature," there are nearly 2,000 entries and that certain types of books (the penny dreadful, science fiction) are discussed. Ralph would have been pleased to see this ongoing recognition of 19th century popular culture from our friends across the sea.

Frank Acker

I have known Ralph Cummings for over sixty years. When we first met, Ralph lived on a farm with his father and mother, and he delivered milk to their customers every morning. One day he noticed a stack of old nickel weeklies in the back entry of a house as he was leaving the milk. He was fascinated with them, and spoke about them to the owner, who said he was tossing them out, and Ralph could have them if he wished.

That was the start of his collection, which grew steadily through deals and swaps, purchases and gifts. In those days, many young men had small printing presses, and circulars were printed for a nominal price by them; in fact, as it only cost a cent to send a bunch to a prospect, the mails were loaded with them. It seemed hundreds of fellows were in the mailorder business; all with something to sell that they were interested in. Dime novels were a favorite article to sell, swap, and buy. Ralph had his share of ads, and built up a good sized clientel.

In time, he became well known as a dime novel dealer, and was the subject of articles in many papers. He also was well acquainted with some of the big collectors, and authors of the period. People such as William J. Benners, Prof. Albert Johannsen and others not only wrote to him, but came to visit him. Everybody knew Ralph Cummings.

Ralph was quiet, modest, friendly and honest. You always got a fair deal with him. We will all miss him. I liked Ralph Cummings. Everybody liked Ralph Cummings.

Ralph P. Smith

I started printing the Dime Novel Roundup in 1933. Oddly, I had no contact with Ralph Cummings for a couple of years after that. I man named Ward, I believe, had printed a few issues—taking part in trade of old Dime Novels. He was really not equipped for magazine work and wondered if I





Ralph Cummings

would consider taking it on at the same basis. I did. In a year or two it was mutually decided to cut out the middle man—if Cummings was agreeable. Naturally it made no difference to him so I started getting his copy direct—and finally “meeting” a very nice gentleman. It would be another 40 years before I would meet him face to face. In 1976 my wife and I attended a stamp show in Philadelphia, and went on to Connecticut to meet an editor of one of the stamp publications we were printing. Then on to Fall River to meet, for the first time, Editor Le Blanc, and then on to see Ralph Cummings.

While undoubtedly he had his aches and pains, which we all get as we get older—nothing like that was brought up. He seemed in good health and we had a very interesting conversation—then a look at his stacks of dime novels, books and magazines. As we went up to the attic of his old home, seeing the stacks of heavy items, I hoped the floor joists were as solid as the beams in the rafters—probably at least 8x8s held together with wooden pegs. A very interesting meeting with an old friend of many years.

When he was the editor, we had pretty much free rein as to what went into the Roundup after the main articles (—just as it is now with editor Le-Blanc!) “Old timers” will remember his “Newsy News” column. He, along with a lot of us, were brought up when the local papers carried the “country columns” where “so and so was home for the weekend,” and “ . . . recovered from a bout with the flu.” And his Newsy News reflected this—noting visitors, sickness among the members, and occasionally, a death. Intermingled was items he had clipped, had read about, or others had sent in. With each issue he sent enough to fill several pages—so whether for good or bad, it was left to me to pick and choose. I don’t believe he ever complained about what I ran or what I left out. I would go back for months and try and pick out what I thought the membership would be most interested in—and hating that space limitations prevented me from using everything he sent. Eventually



the by-passed items would be consigned to the "circular file." With his copy, written in long hand on yellow tablet paper, he would draw his usual smiling faces. He knew they couldn't be printed in his column, he knew it would make no difference in what was used or not used, but he was a cheerful man and WANTED to do his best to make everyone he came in contact with, cheerful too. His letters and Christmas cards always had one or more smiling faces—I imagine all his correspondence sported them!

A GOOD man, happy, cheerful and helpful. He will be long remembered.

Harlan W. Miller—Miller Print Shop

I received the sad news of the death of Ralph F. Cummings from his niece, Mrs. Paquin. Mrs. Paquin had for a number of years been taking care of Ralph and was devoted to him. Ralph had died in the hospital, and she contacted as many of his friends that she could. Most of Ralph's dime novel friends had predeceased him and the funeral was attended mainly by relatives, neighbors and my brother and I. There was quite a lot of time to reminisce on the way to the funeral. Ralph lived about an hour and half's ride from my home.

I recalled the first time I had met Ralph. It was in the early 1930's. My father had been corresponding and buying dime novels from him for a number of years. They had built up quite a friendship. I was about 14 or 15 and was very much interested in dime novels, and was privy to the correspondence, and the joy of receiving a package from Ralph was a high point in my young life. My father and I took a bus from Fall River to Providence, changed to a Worcester bound bus. Our instructions were to get off at Pleasant Street in Fisherville and the second house after crossing the railroad tracks was the house where he lived. I expected to see an old man, and was surprised at his young appearance. He ushered us up to his dime novel quarters, an area I was to be very familiar with during the coming years. He and my father discussed dime novels to their hearts content while I wandered through the numerous rooms on the third floor and was amazed at the amount of books. All the rare types were represented, not by one or two but by hundreds. It made our small collection appear very insignificant indeed. Ralph was very kind hearted and before we left we were bundled down with quite a few dime novels, some bought, but most of them gifts from Ralph.

After WW II, the visits became more frequent, by father having bought a car. There were many book buying trips. One to Buffalo where we had to rent a U-Haul to get the novels to Ralph's house. Ralph loved and lived dime novels, and was able to make a living in dealing in his life's love. At times his large house, a converted chicken coop, a barn and a few other farm buildings were filled to capacity with dime novels and story papers. During the last years of his life he sold most of the material and at his death only a handful of items were left to be disposed of by his niece. These I bought.

At the funeral services the minister told a story to demonstrate Ralph's kindness and consideration for others. During a Sunday morning service, the minister had a coughing spell. Ralph left his seat and walked up to him and offered him a cough drop, which the astonished minister took with a word of thanks. At one time while visiting us for a weekend, he found the family celebrating my mother's birthday. Not wanting to be left out of the festivities he left to buy a gift and presented my mother with a pound of butter. Not the usual birthday gift, but much appreciated because of the thoughtfulness behind it.

At the cemetery, the mourners wept silently as Ralph was laid to rest



with the minister's concluding, "may his soul rest in peace." As I turned away and walked toward my car to leave, I wondered if Ralph would find some of Ralph Cummings in his den. Visitors to Ralph's will remember this scene found heaven.

Edward T. LeBlanc

## LEWIS E. THEISS AND HIS JUVENILE BOOKS

By Bob Chenu

Lewis Edwin Theiss was born in Birmingham, Conn., September 29, 1878. He died in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, May 22, 1963 at the age of 84. He was a graduate of Bucknell University, and was a professor there from 1924 to 1946 in the School of Journalism. He authored many books and magazine articles, many of which were in no respect juvenile in orientation.

After college he worked as a reporter on the N. Y. Sun. He began writing the juvenile books which are our interest, with his first published by W. A. Wilde of Boston in 1914.

His books in general fall mostly into either wireless stories or aviation stories, though there are a few which are not thus connected. Many of his stories have a Pennsylvania background or at least involve characters from Pennsylvania. His juvenile books were in general written at a pace of one per year, though there are some exceptions to this.

Some of his books form series, in that they are about a major character, or are related to such a series in that this character appears in them though additional characters assume important roles. Likewise some of the books relate to the adventures of some one of a group of characters, all of whom have some tie-in to unify the books as a series.

What I would call the Wireless Patrol Series begins with the adventures of a group engaged in wireless activity combined with Boy Scout type stories. In later books the separate adventures of one of these boys is carried forward. The Young Wireless operator titles thus carry on the story of individual boys of the Wireless Patrol, as they find work as radio operators on a ship, with the secret service, Coast Guard, etc.

There is also the "Jimmy Donnelly" Air Adventure Series, and the Joseph "Ginger" Hale Series of air adventure stories.

The Aviation Stories cover a very wide variety of aviation experiences, ranging from airmail flying, through flood mapping, exploration, and flying reporter stories.

Taken chronologically, "The Wireless Patrol" series would come first, as follows:

### The Wireless Patrol

In Camp At Fort Brady .....	1914
The Wireless Patrol At Fort Brady .....	1917
The Secret Wireless .....	1918
The Hidden Aerial .....	1919
The Young Wireless Operator Afloat .....	1920
The Young Wireless Operator As A Fire Patrol .....	1921
The Young Wireless Operator With the Oyster Fleet ..	1922
The Young Wireless Operator With The U. S. Secret Service	1923
The Young Wireless Operator With The U. S. Coast Guard	1924
Aloft In the Shennandoah II .....	1926



**The Jimmy Donnelly Series**

Piloting The U. S. Air Mail .....	1927
The Search For The Lost Mail Plane .....	1928
Trailing The Air Mail Bandit .....	1929*
The Flying Reporter .....	1930
The Pursuit Of The Flying Smugglers .....	1931

\*This title is an exception to the Wilde Publications which otherwise prevails. It was published by Wilcox and Follett.

**The Joseph "Ginger" Hale Series**

Flying the U. S. Mail To South America .....	1933
The Mail Pilot Of The Caribbean .....	1934
The Flying Explorer .....	1935
From Coast To Coast With The U. S. Air Mail .....	1936
Flood Mappers Aloft .....	1937
Wings Over The Pacific .....	1938
Flying With The C A A .....	1941
Flying For Uncle Sam .....	1942
Flying With The Coastal Patrol .....	1943
Flying With The Air Sea Rescue Service .....	1944

Though the last four of these titles are chiefly about a character named Criswell, Hale also has a part.

**Books Not In Series**

His Big Brother .....	1915
Lumberjack Bob .....	1916
A Champion Of The Foothills .....	1918
The Flume In The Mountains .....	1925
On Board A U. S. Submarine .....	1940

There are also seven other juvenile titles which I have not examined. Guessing based on title and date of publication they might belong in some cases to the series indicated, but this is only speculation. These titles are:

1927	Keepers Of The Sea (Wireless Patrol?)	
1932	Wings Of The Coast Guard (????)	
1936	Guardians Of The Sea (????)	
1939	Wings Over The Andes (Ginger Hale?)	
1943	Tommy Visits An Aircraft Factory (????)	
1944	Overseas With The U. S. Air Transport Command (Ginger Hale?)	
1945	Sky Road To Adventure (????)	Hale?)

One of the earliest titles, "His Big Brother," which has to do with the Big Brother Movement, was written in collaboration with his wife, Mary Theiss (1915). (He also collaborated with her in a number of non-juvenile books having to do with gardening, in which he was deeply involved. "A Champion Of The Foothills" is also oriented towards agriculture, being the story of a boy's efforts to grow a prize crop.

I wish to thank Didi Johnson for seeking and securing biographical information for me, which is based on his obituary as reported in the N. Y. Times.

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## ADULT WRITERS WHO WROTE A FEW JUVENILE BOOKS—Part II

By Jack R. Schorr

### CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY

1861—1920

This Episcopal clergyman and novelist of Scotch-Irish background was born in Allegheny, Pennsylvania. His forebears settled in Pennsylvania in 1744 and displayed, from generation to generation, a genius for frontier fighting and for getting numerous sons as bellicose as their fathers. Cyrus graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1883, and after 3 years with the Navy, he went west and found employment with the Missouri Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Though of Presbyterian antecedents, he was confirmed, while living in Omaha, in the Episcopal Church and began to study for holy orders. Since he was already married and with several children to support, giving up his work was out of the question. He read and studied Theology on trolley cars back and forth to work.

He was finally ordained a priest in 1890. His duties carried him over 5 states, and although a stalwart and two-fisted descendant of Indian fighters, Brady found his work strenuous. He wrote, "In three years by actual count I traveled over 90,000 miles by railroad, wagon and horseback, preaching, delivering addresses, writing letters, marrying, baptising, and burying and other endless work."

He returned East and became chaplain of the first Pennsylvania Valley Infantry in the Spanish-American War. He contracted typhoid fever while in the service, and while recovering wrote his first novel, "For The Love of Country," a story of the American Revolution, in 1898. He dictated it into a phonograph. Next came "For The Freedom of The Sea." For the next 20 years all the boundless energy that had gone into church activities, was poured into authorship. He published more than 70 volumes. However, during this time, he never gave up his clerical duties, and he was rector of 3 churches at different times.

His life at sea and out west gave him an abundance of raw material upon which to draw.

The people loved these stories and devoured them for over 20 years. They were brisk, exciting narratives, and with lots of red-blooded men, and this was best displayed in his famous series "American Fights and Fighters." Throughout his works, one got the feel and color of being at the scene.

He passed away on January 24, 1920, from pneumonia after an illness of only two days. He was survived by his second wife, Mary Barrett, his 3 sons and 3 daughters. So passed away a man whose forebears took part in many of the incidents he wrote about. (Dictionary of American Biography, Scribners.)

The juvenile books that Cyrus Townsend Brady wrote were:  
Bob Dashaway Series—Dodd, Mead & Co.

1. Bob Dashaway, Privateersman, 1911
2. Bob Dashaway, Treasure Hunter, 1912
3. Bob Dashaway in Frozen Seas, 1913

Boys of the Service Series—Charles Scribners & Sons

1. In The Wasp's Nest, 1902—A story of a sea waif in the War of 1812.
2. In the War With Mexico, 1903—A midshipman's adventures on ship and shore.
3. A Midshipman In The Pacific, 1904—His adventures on whaler, trader and frigate.



#### 4. On the Old Kearsarge, 1909—A story of the Civil War.

This series was published in red ribbed cloth, gold lettering, illustrated cover and spine, the sub-title on the cover being printed in white. Note: There were a couple of other books listed under Boys of the Service Series, but they were not truly juveniles, but romances.

### ZANE GREY, KING OF THE WEST

1872—1939

Zane Grey, that prolific writer of great western stories also included in his output some fine juvenile stories.

Zane Grey was born Pearl Zane Gray in Zaneville, Ohio, in 1872. He was the fourth of the five Gray children; he had two sisters and two brothers. He was the son of Lewis M. Gray, a restless man who was a farmer for awhile, a hunter and woods man. He then became a traveling preacher for a time. He met and married Josephine Zane, whose roots were deep in Zaneville founded by her pioneer family. He settled down and became a practicing dentist after a brief apprenticeship with a practicing dentist. From this union Pearl Zane Gray was born. Later in life he dropped the Pearl and became Zane Grey, even changed the spelling from Gray to Grey. Zane had Indian blood in his veins from his maternal background and he was proud of it. This side of Zane's maternal background was rich in pioneer history in the early days of Ohio.

So here we have an author, a favorite of two generations of Americans. He produced 89 books during his lifetime, including 6 juvenile books. For almost 10 years, 1915-1924, a Grey book was in the top of the best seller list. The best seller Zane wrote was "Riders of The Purple Sage," published in 1912, considered the best Western ever written, by Western novel fans.

He didn't become an instant success overnight. He had difficulty getting "Betty Zane," "The Spirit of The Border," and "The Last Trail" published. "The Last of The Plainsmen" was rejected by Harpers, and he was told that he had no literary promise. His first huge success was "The Riders of The Purple Sage." This was at first rejected by Harpers and other magazines, until Grey persuaded the Vice President at Harpers to read it, and it was accepted and published and was a great success.

He was an avid fisherman since early boyhood, and he was the leader of the youth in the area. His gang would meet in an old cave near his home and read Harry Castlemon and Beadle Dime Novels. It was the Harry Castlemon books that really sparked his interest in writing. His father ripped up his first manuscript and told him he had plans for him other than scribbling. He wanted Pearl to follow in his footsteps and be a dentist.

Pearl played a lot of baseball and became a good ball-player and a skilled pitcher. He helped his father pull teeth, which he did well, because of the strength in his hands. He would go out in the country and pull teeth on a Saturday and he was allowed to keep the money he charged. He ran into trouble with the State Dental Board and he promised to quit pulling teeth and go to dental school. He graduated from Pennsylvania Dental School, went to New York and opened a dental office. Zane was married November 25, 1905 to Lina Roth (Dolly). They had 3 children, 2 boys and a girl. It was a fascinating and adventurous marriage. She was a great help and support to Grey in his writing and later years.

He enjoyed writing juveniles, drawing largely from his own experiences, which made them so popular. The juvenile books he wrote were as follows:

The Short Stop—A. C. McClurg & Co., 1909



The Young Forester—Harper & Brothers, 1910

The Young Pitcher—Harper & Brothers, 1911

The Young Lion Hunter—Harper & Brothers, 1911

Ken Ward in The Jungle—Harper & Brothers, 1912

Roping Lions in The Grand Canyon—Harper & Brothers, 1924

Don, Story of a Dog—Harper & Brothers, 1928

Ken Ward in The Jungle was published in American Boy as a serial, beginning May, 1912. Roping Lions in The Grand Canyon was published in Boys' Life in November, 1923. Red Headed Out Fielder and other stories have appeal to older youth and to adults who love good baseball stories; this one was published in Grosset and Dunlap in 1920.

### CLARENCE BUDINGTON KELLAND

July 11, 1881—February 18, 1904

Born in Portland, Michigan. American novelist and short story writer. He received his education from a private school in Detroit. He received his LLB Degree from Detroit College of Law in 1902.

He married Betty Caroline Smith.

For some years he was a reporter and then political editor of the Detroit News. He really got his start writing juvenile stories while he was editor of American Boy from 1907 to 1915 and he published his popular Mark Tidd Series. This plump young hero launched Kelland on his writing career that amused and entertained millions of readers here and abroad. He became well known and was a lecturer on juvenile literature at the University of Michigan. He was a good friend and advisor of Zane Grey during this period.

In 1915, while he was in Vermont inefficiently trying to help his brother-in-law in his small plant which manufactured clothes pins, he gave birth to an idea which developed in his famous adult stories "Scattergood Baines." The first three stories appeared in The Saturday Evening Post, then the American Magazine took him over and he appeared in over at least 100 short stories and one novel. Scattergood Baines, a fat resourceful Yankee promoter, was highly successful and loved by millions who read The Post.

"Mr. Deeds Goes To Town," which was the most popular movie made, starring Gary Cooper, was based upon one of Kelland's short stories. It was filmed in 1936.

In his adult writing, Kelland had a unique style, reflected in his characters, none of whom had any similarity to real persons, living or dead. His plots which never resembled reality, had a way which turns them into a story that hangs together, and the American reader loved them. His stories were humorous, rakish, some historical and melodramatic, but all were sure fire entertainment which made them big sellers.

His juvenile books were as follows:

The "Mark Tidd" Series were published by Harper and Brothers. Later reprinted by Grosset and Dunlap.

Mark Tidd, 1913, 8 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd in The Backwoods, 1914, 7 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd In Business, 1915, 8 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd's Citadel, 1916, 4 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd, Editor, 1917, 4 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd, Manufacturer, 1918, 4 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd in Italy, 1925, 4 illustrations by F. C. Yohn

Mark Tidd in Egypt, 1926, 4 illustrations by W. W. Clarke

Mark Tidd in Sicily, 1928, 4 illustrations by T. Victor Hall



Catty Atkins Series published by Harper and Brothers. All illustrated by W. W. Clarke with 4 illustrations.

Catty Atkins, 1919

Catty Atkins, Riverman, 1921

Catty Atkins, Sailorman, 1922

Catty Atkins, Financier, 1923

Catty Atkins, Bandmaster, 1924

American Boys Workshop, edited by Kelland, published by McKay in 1914. Each subject was written by an expert in the particular field he covered.

Information for the article on Cyrus Brady, Zane Grey, Clarence Budington Kelland, was obtained from U. S. Catalogue, Twentieth Century Authors, 1942.

Zane Grey, A Bibliography, by Frank Gruber.

American Biography, 1900-1920.

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### NEW MEMBERS

- 381 Pegasus Publishers, P. O. Box 1350, Vashon Island, Wash. 98070
- 382 James E. Graves, 1210 13th Ave., Sacramento, Calif. 95822
- 383 Matthew J. Bruccoli, Inc., 2006 Sumter St., Columbia, S. C. 29201
- 384 J. Friedman, P. O. Box 27478, San Francisco, Calif. 94127
- 385 Phillip H. Nelson, Rt. 4 Box 287, Sciotoville, Ohio 45662

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

- 317 Mark Robson, Box 1515 Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa 50140
- 323 Albert B. Brown, Jr., 146 Sefton Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02886
- 818 Laris M. Bullock, P. O. Box 1293, Portland, Maine 04104
- 261 Ron Deyhle, 4529 Alturg Place, N. E., Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87110
- 178 B. Frank Vogel, M.D., 60 Cindy Cove, Gulfport, Miss. 39503
- 266 Robert E. Williman, P. O. Box 1564, Bowie, Md. 20716

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### NEWS NOTES

In reference to the excellent article by Ralph Gardner in the June 1984 issue of the Roundup, it should be noted that the estate service (the selling at auction of a deceased member's collection for the benefit of the heirs) was first proposed by Bob Williman and adopted by the Horatio Alger Society at their Capital Caucus convention in 1981. Ralph related the specifics leading to the Dick Seddon sale, but failed to refer to the resolution of 1981. I'm sure it slipped his mind. It certainly slipped mine. Thanks to the HAS members who brought this to my attention.

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## WANTED

American Boy Magazine, January, September 1907

January, June, July September, October, November, December 1908

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